

Nancy Johnson



Fifth District, Connecticut

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Johnson Helps Win Grant for Thomaston Firefighters

Federal Grant Funds New Breathing Equipment, Improves Safety

THOMASTON, CT – Congresswoman Nancy Johnson today announced the Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department will receive \$90,063 in federal funds to purchase new, modern breathing equipment for its firefighters.

“This grant will give Thomaston firefighters the latest equipment to protect their community,” Johnson said. “I fight hard for these grant programs because our firefighters need and deserve the best resources to do their jobs.”

Thomaston First Selectman and former fire chief Kip Brammer said the grant will allow the department to purchase 26 units of new, modern self-contained breathing apparatus. The department had previously planned to purchase the high-tech breathing equipment over several years – the grant will allow it to purchase this important firefighter safety equipment all at once.

Brammer learned the news Friday after a visit to Washington to meet with Congresswoman Johnson and Department of Homeland Security officials on the firefighters’ grant process. They discussed Thomaston’s grant and ways to improve the program and application process for small cities and towns in the Fifth District.

“Nancy has worked with us to keep us informed and give us help in winning this important funding. Her work has paid off with this grant, and her help will assist us in applying for future grants,” Brammer said. “This grant pushes us way ahead, allowing us to get our airpacks up to code and get to a better system.”

The grant was made through the Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety Program, which funds training, wellness and fitness, firefighting equipment, personal protective equipment, and modifications to fire stations and facilities. It is one of four categories of FIRE grants, all funded through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The other three grant programs are the Fire Prevention Program, the Emergency Medical Services Program, and the Firefighting Vehicles Acquisition Program.

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